

Essentials.

The Biblical basis for the core beliefs of
Christianity.

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Philippians 4.20

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Here are the questions you will be able to answer:

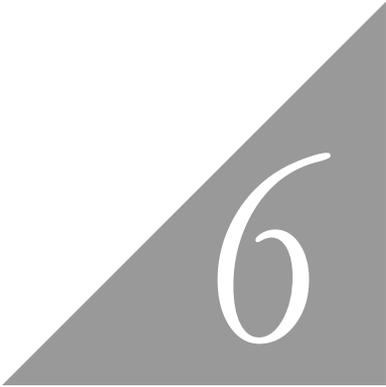
1. Why did God make us?
2. Does it matter how we live?
3. Who is Jesus?
4. Can we trust the Bible?
5. Can we influence God?
6. Can Satan influence us?
7. What is our part in God's plan?

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Lesson Six

Can Satan influence us?

Spiritual Warfare



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Here are some ideas and verses we will consider in this lesson:

- Can Satan influence us?
 - Yes, he can
 - By entering the heart: Acts 5.1-5
 - By entering the mind: Matthew 16.21-23
 - By testing: Luke 22.31-34
 - By tempting: Matthew 4.1-11
 - By blinding: 2 Corinthians 4.3-4
 - By stealing: Luke 8.12
 - Know your enemy
 - His pride: Isaiah 14.12-14
 - His beauty: Ezekiel 28.11-19
 - His disguise: 2 Corinthians 11.14
 - His names
 - Deceiver 2 John 1.7
 - Father of lies John 8.44
 - Apollyon, Angel of Abyss Revelation 9.11
 - The Tempter Matthew 4.3
 - Accuser of the brethren Revelation 12.10
 - Prince of this world John 12.31
 - The adversary 1 Peter 5.8
- His desire: Genesis 4.7
- His location: Revelation 12.7-10
- His domain: Ephesians 2.1-2
- His persuasion: Genesis 3.1-7
- His religion: 1 Timothy 4.1
- His destination: Revelation 20.7-10
- Know your weapons
 - Prayer: Matthew 6.13
 - Self-control: 1 Peter 5.8-9
 - Resistance: James 4.7
 - Escape: 1 Corinthians 10.13
 - The Name of Christ: Acts 3.1-8
 - Armor: Ephesians 6.11-18
 - Power: 1 John 4.1-4
 - Help: Hebrews 2.17-18
 - Supernatural Strength: 1 Peter 5.9-10
 - Assurance of victory: 1 Corinthians 15.57-58

+ Can Satan influence us?

+ Yes, he can

+ By entering the heart: *Acts 5.1-5*

- 1 Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 2 With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. 3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan
- has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your
- disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened.

+ By entering the mind: *Matthew 16.21-23*

- 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law,
- and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"
- 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

+ By testing: *Luke 22.31-34*

- 31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." 33 But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."
- 34 Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

+ By tempting: *Matthew 4.1-11*

- 1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written:
- 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said,
- "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written:
- 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship
- me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

+ By blinding: *2 Corinthians 4.3-4*

- 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

+ By stealing: *Luke 8.12*

- 12 Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

+ **Know your enemy**

+ His pride: *Isaiah 14.12-14*

- 12 How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! 13 You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned
- on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. 14 I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

+ His beauty: *Ezekiel 28.11-19*

- 11 The word of the LORD came to me: 12 "Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: `This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "'You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden,
- the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were
- prepared. 14 You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness
- was found in you. 16 Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. 17 Your heart
- became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. 18 By your many sins and dishonest trade you have
- desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching.
- 19 All the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more.'"

+ His disguise: *2 Corinthians 11.14*

- 14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

- + His desire: *Genesis 4.7*
 - 7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

- + His names
 - Prince of this world *John 12.31*
 - Deceiver 2 *John 1.7*
 - Father of lies *John 8.44*
 - The Tempter *Matthew 4.3*
 - Accuser of the brethren *Revelation 12.10*
 - The adversary 1 *Peter 5.8*
 - Apollyon, Angel of Abyss *Revelation 9.11*

- + His location: *Revelation 12.7-10*
 - 7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. 8 But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.
 - 9 The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. 10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have
 - come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

- + His domain: *Ephesians 2.1-2*
 - 1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

- + His persuasion: *Genesis 3.1-7*
 - 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,
 - 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it
 - your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it.
 - She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

+ His religion: *1 Timothy 4.1*

- 1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

+ His destination: *Revelation 20.7-10*

- 7 When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth--Gog and Magog--to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand
- on the seashore. 9 They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. 10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown
- into the lake of burning sulphur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

+ **Know your weapons**

+ Prayer: *Matthew 6.13*

- 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

+ Self-control: *1 Peter 5.8-9*

- 8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

+ Resistance: *James 4.7*

- 7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

+ Escape: *1 Corinthians 10.13*

- 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

+ The Name of Christ: *Acts 3.1-8*

- 1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer--at three in the afternoon. 2 Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts.
- 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.
- 6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong.
- 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

- *Acts 19.13-16* Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, "In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out." 14 Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. 15 One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?"
- 16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

+ Armor: *Ephesians 6.11-18*

- 11 Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

+ Power: *1 John 4.1-4*

- 1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 This is how you can recognise the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.
- 4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

+ Help: *Hebrews 2.17-18*

- 17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.
- 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

+ Supernatural Strength:

1 Peter 5.9-10

- 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.
- 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

+ Assurance of victory:
1 Corinthians 15.57-58

- 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.